"Must not rest until we put pill mills out of business"

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan (FL-13), the author of federal legislation to crack down on Florida pill mills, today praised state leaders for creating a strike force to combat criminal drug trafficking.

"I applaud Governor Scott and Attorney General Pam Bondi for taking action on such a critical issue," said Buchanan. "It's imperative that we crack down on phony pain clinics that bring untold misery to our children, our families, and our communities." The Governor and Attorney General announced Monday a new initiative aimed at providing immediate funds to confront drug trafficking in Florida.

Buchanan's legislation, the "Pill Mill Crackdown Act" is supported by more than 50 members of Congress from both parties. It would double the penalties and triple the fines for drug violators and use assets seized to fund prescription databases in states like Florida and reclassify one of the most abused and deadly narcotics to make it more difficult to obtain.

"Seven people die from prescription drug abuse every day in Florida," said Buchanan. "We must not rest until we put these pill mills out of business."